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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
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COMMITTEE ON
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NATURAL RESOURCES

RANKING MEMBER OF THE
SUBCOMMITTEE FOR INDIAN
AND INSULAR AFFAIRS

March 24, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger
Chairwoman
House Appropriations Committee
H-307 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Española, NM Food Bank Expansion in fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Food Depot, located at 1222 A Siler Road Santa Fe, New Mexico 87507. The funding would be used for building improvements, equipment, materials, warehousing, and transportation for a food bank in Espanola, NM. The food bank is designed to provide access to free, nutritious foods and connections to additional social services in the local community. These actions to reduce barriers to healthy food will improve short- and mid-term food security. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it helps prevent further government spending to address public health dilemmas brought on by food insecurity. Research shows that adults who are food insecure are at an increased risk for a variety of negative health outcomes and health disparities such as obesity and chronic disease. Food-insecure children are also at an increased risk for a variety of negative health outcomes, including obesity and developmental problems.

This project has a Federal nexus because it is for the purposes authorized in Section 306 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, 7 U.S. Code section 1926(a).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



Teresa Leger Fernández
Member of Congress